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STAR OF MYSORE

OUR EVENING DAILY

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MYSURU Friday 25th December 2020
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Merry Christmas
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Cheer amid COVID gloom

Christmas celebrations and Vaikunta Ekadashi spread joy as people pray for a disease-free 2021

Mysuru, Dec. 25 (SBD & BCT)- Christmas was not cancelled but it was significantly curtailed in city this year due to COVID contagion and the State Government's flip-flop on night curfew, timings, restrictions and scale of celebrations.

Likewise, *Vaikunta Ekadashi* too was celebrated in a low-key manner at most of the Vaishnavite Temples in city this morning. Though Temples were decorated for the festival, the crowd was limited in the morning. However, the footfalls picked up as the day progressed.

Representatives from Temple managements and Trusts were seen appealing to people not to crowd in a particular area. Extra care was taken to ensure sanitising and help pilgrims maintain social distancing.

Sri Lakshmivenkataramanaswamy Temple at Vontikoppal remained closed for devotees due to pandemic and people were seen performing *pujas* and lighting camphor outside the closed doors.

Infant Jesus placed at 7 pm

Hundreds of Christians flocked the churches in city to attend the midnight Mass yesterday heralding Christmas celebrations. The centre of attraction was the St. Philomena's Church in Lashkar Mohalla where people arrived to witness the celebrations. Church members and the choir sang Christmas carols and hymns.

(See VAIKUNTA on page 6)

Greetings

STAR OF MYSORE
wishes a **Merry Christmas** to all our Christian brothers, sisters and readers, who are celebrating the festival today.
— Management

Launching
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Yesh: 9538885511

Entry banned to Chamundi Hill, Temple on New Year Day

No events, No illumination, No fireworks at Palace; Chunchanakatte Cattle Fair cancelled

Mysuru, Dec. 25 (BCT)- The picturesque Chamundi Hill will be out of bounds for New Year revellers and also for devotees who are planning for special *pujas*. The District Administration has restricted entry of public to Chamundi Hill on Jan. 1, 2021. This is to curb mass gathering and prevent the spread of COVID-19 contagion.

On the first morning of every New Year, a lot of devotees visit Chamundeshwari Temple atop the Hill. Keeping this in mind and to prevent transmission of COVID-19, Deputy Commissioner Rohini Sindhuri has directed the officials and the Police to keep the Temple and Chamundi Hill out of bounds to people.

However, there are no restrictions on the traditional *pujas* on the New Year Day performed by the temple priests inside the sanctum sanctorum.

Also, this year the DC has ordered cancellation of fireworks display and Palace illumination at midnight as part of ushering the New Year.

Apart from this the annual flower show and a winter festival which used to coincide with the arrival of New Year has also been cancelled.

The DC has also banned entry to Chikkadevamma Temple in Saragur taluk from Dec. 28 2020 to Jan. 1, 2021.

Along with ban on entry to temples, the famous Chunchanakatte Cattle Fair that takes places in Chunchanakatte, K.R. Nagar taluk has also been cancelled.

The fair is usually held from Jan. 1 to 31 every year. Also, the Brahmothsava at the historic Sri Rama temple at Chunchanakatte scheduled to be held on Jan. 15 will be out of bounds for the devotees.

The DC has clarified that the ban on public entry will not affect religious rituals.

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STAR OF MYSORE

"We believe comment is free, but facts are sacred."

Editor: M. GOVINDE GOWDA, M.A.

Mysuru, Friday 25th December 2020

Dr. A.P. Jnana Prakash is UoM Registrar (Evaluation)

Mysuru, Dec. 25- Dr. A.P. Jnana Prakash, Professor, Physics Department, University of Mysore (UoM), has been appointed as the Registrar (Evaluation) of the University.

Dr. Jnana Prakash

R. Mahesh, Under-Secretary to the Government, Higher Education Department, Government of Karnataka, has issued orders on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, appointing Dr. A.P. Jnana Prakash as the new Registrar, under the Karnataka State Universities Act.

Dr. Jnana Prakash took charge at Crawford Hall recently. Prof. K.M. Mahadevan, who was till now serving as the Registrar (Evaluation) of the University, has returned to his parent Kuvempu University.

Dr. Jnana Prakash obtained his Ph.D from Mangalore University in 2002 and obtained his M.Sc. and M.Phil. Degree from Gulbarga University. He has obtained his Post-Doctoral Fellowship from National Science Council, Government of Taiwan and a Post-Doctoral Fellowship from Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, USA.

He has published a book and has written more than 100 research papers that have been published in several journals of international repute.

Ph.D awardees

Mysuru, Dec. 25- The University of Mysore (UoM) has awarded Ph.D in History to **R. Vasanthakumari** for her thesis 'Periyapatna Talukina Dalithara Samskruthika - Ondu Adhyayana (1947-2013)' submitted under the guidance of Dr. Puttaiah.

K. Rajitha has been awarded Ph.D in Chemistry by the UoM for her thesis 'Synthesis of Carbon Based Nanomaterials and Their Anti-Corrosin Properties on Mild Steel' [Guide: Dr. K.N. Mohana].

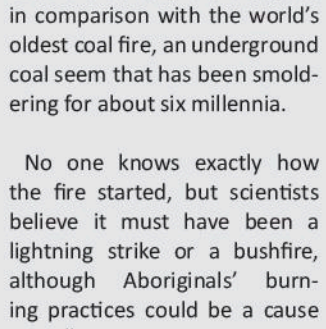
Mahesh Bhaskar Hegde has been awarded Ph.D in Chemistry by the UoM for his thesis 'Synthesis of Graphene Based Nanomaterials and their Selected Applications' [Guide: Dr. K.N. Mohana].

EDITOR'S BOTTOMLINE

(Courtesy: The Times of India)

NEWS SPARKLERS

World's oldest coal fire burning for 6,000 years



Wingen: A coal seam approximately 30 meters under Australia's Mount Wingen has been burning continuously for approximately 6,000 years, earning the place its famous nickname, Burning Mountain.

Underground coal seam fires are not at all uncommon, in fact it's estimated that about 1,000 coal seams are burning around the world at any one point. Such fires usually occur in coal-rich but less-developed countries and are usually put out in a matter of days, a month at most. That's not always the case though and India's Jharia coalfield, which has been burning continuously for over 100 years, is a perfect example. But even this century-old fire pales in comparison with the world's oldest coal fire, an underground coal seem that has been smoldering for about six millennia.

No one knows exactly how the fire started, but scientists believe it must have been a lightning strike or a bushfire, although Aboriginals' burning practices could be a cause as well.

Elephant calf survives after receiving CPR

Bangkok: A baby elephant, that was hit by a two-wheeler survived after receiving Cardio-pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) by rescue worker identified as Mana Srivate.

Mana was called into action while off duty on a road trip late on Sunday, successfully reviving a baby elephant struck by a motorcycle while crossing a road with a group of wild pachyderms in the eastern province of Chanthaburi. The video of the rescue, which has gone viral on social media shows Mana giving two-handed compressions to a small elephant lying on its side as colleagues a few metres away treat a dazed and injured motorcycle rider on the floor.

HEALTH CAPSULE

Exercise offers incredible benefits that can improve nearly every aspect of your health from the inside out. Regular physical activity can increase the production of hormones that make you feel happier and help you sleep better. It also improves your skin, help you lose weight and lessen the risk of chronic diseases and improve your sex life.

By Aruna Selvi - Department of Physiotherapy

COLUMBIA ASIA

COLUMBIA ASIA HOSPITAL - MYSORE

** Health Capsule is not intended to be of a diagnostic nature*

COVID-19 UPDATE

Figures as per Government Media Bulletin released last evening

Mysuru

Positive cases yesterday	:	88
Total positive cases	:	52,045
Discharges yesterday	:	40
Total discharges	:	50,545
Deaths yesterday	:	0
Total deaths	:	1,008
Total active cases	:	492

Mandya

Positive cases yesterday	:	16
Total positive cases	:	19,300
Total discharges	:	18,951
Total deaths	:	147
Total active cases	:	202

Chamarajanagar

Positive cases yesterday	:	9
Total positive cases	:	6,709
Total discharges	:	6,465
Total deaths	:	119
Total active cases	:	114

Kodagu

Positive cases yesterday	:	6
Total positive cases	:	5,656
Total discharges	:	5,472
Total deaths	:	70
Total active cases	:	114

Hassan

Positive cases yesterday	:	27
Total positive cases	:	27,842
Total discharges	:	27,187
Total deaths	:	393
Total active cases	:	262

LAUGHTER THE BEST MEDICINE

HEIGHT OF MEMORY LOSS:
A boy opens his tiffin box on the road side to see whether he is going to school or coming back from school !!

Today's Currency Rate

1 US Dollar	= Rs. 73.54
1 UK Pound	= Rs. 99.86
1 UAE Dirham	= Rs. 20.02
1 Euro	= Rs. 89.70

VOICE OF THE READER

Why can't MCC use property identification number of UPOR?

Sir,

The Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) has taken up computerising the calculation, collection and managing property tax in Mysuru. Another government body (Survey Settlement and Land Records, Urban Property Ownership Record — SSLR, UPOR Project Office) has already surveyed all the residential, commercial and institutional properties in Mysuru and surrounding areas and allotted unique identification numbers to them.

MCC should have aligned its process with that of UPOR and synergise both the systems. It would save duplication of surveying the same property by two institutions. It would save time and efforts too.

I urge the MCC to use the property identification number of UPOR as ultimately property record may be made compulsory. UPOR would have to handle property records and disputes associated with it. MCC would only collect taxes and it would come to know from which property tax is not being collected.

Both the institutions could share their data with each other and other utilities for collection of cess and taxes.

Will the MCC Commissioner see the advantage in this proposal and collaborate with UPOR so that public money is not wasted?

—H.G. Subramanya
on e-mail

Mysuru
22.11.2020

Govt. withdraws 'night curfew' order after public outcry

Bengaluru, Dec.25 (SSV)- Following public outcry and criticism from BJP Ministers, legislators and opposition parties, the State Government has withdrawn 'night curfew' order before its implementation on Thursday night.

In a press release here, Chief Minister B.S.Yediyurappa has said the Government had decided to impose night curfew on the entire State following suggestion from the COVID-19 Technical Advisory Committee in the wake of emergence of a new strain of Coronavirus in Britain and other countries. However, divergent views came from the general public against the decision to impose night curfew. After reviewing the decision and consulting the Cabinet colleagues and senior officials, it was decided to withdraw night curfew order. The citizens must voluntarily observe the safety protocol by wearing face mask, cleaning hands and maintaining social distancing, the release said.

Face saving exercise

This U-turn of the State Government has been termed as a 'face saving exercise' following criticism from the BJP legislators who suggested to the CM to reconsider his decision. MLC A.H. Vishwanath and MLA Basangouda Patil Yatnal wanted to know the rationale behind imposing night curfew between 11 pm and 5 am by allowing KSRTC buses, autorickshaws and private cabs to ply.

Christmas special offer on branded garments

Mysuru, Dec. 25- As more people are opting for online shopping due to Corona crisis, garment factories are suffering a huge loss. Hence, to clear the stocks they are offering huge discounts on all garments (ladies, gents and children) at the sale being held at Hotel Pai Vista on B.N. Road in city.

Over 50,000 varieties of ladies, gents and kids branded clothes, including T-shirts, jeans, bermudas, kurthis, pyjamas and other designer wears are available.

People can avail the discount offer today and tomorrow from 10 am to 9 pm.

Revamping of PHCs on the anvil: Health Minister

Bengaluru, Dec. 25 (SSV)- The State Government is working on an ambitious project to upgrade the **Primary Health Centres (PHCs)** to ensure quality healthcare to every citizen in the State, said Health and Medical Education Minister Dr. K. Sudhakar.

He was speaking to the media after a meeting with Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa where he briefed CM about the proposed model PHCs here yesterday.

The Minister said that people were of the opinion that community healthcare was better in the neighbouring States, but Yediyurappa has a dream to provide best healthcare services in the country. This project was in tune with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dream to establish health and wellness centres in every village.

There were 2,380 PHCs in the State with one per 30,000 people. The project was aimed at constructing new PHCs to fill the gap and upgrade the existing ones, he said and added that the current bed capacity of PHCs would be increased from 6 to 12 and 12 to 20. Each PHC would be provided with 3-4 doctors including a AYUSH and lady doctor instead of single medical officer. The building would have facilities like yoga and wellness centre, a well-equipped laboratory to facilitate basic blood tests etc., radiology centre with X-ray unit, good quality camera and TV to facilitate expert doctor consultation through tele-medicine, he added.

Houses for docs, nursing staff

Dr. Sudhakar said lack of good housing facility had been one of the main reasons why doctors were not ready to serve in rural areas and PHCs. In order to address this problem and to ensure staff availability at any given point of time, the model PHCs will include residential facility with 2 BHK housing for doctor and 1 BHK for nurse and ANM staff.

e-Hospital

He said e-Hospital facility would be provided to all PHCs to connect with Super Specialty hospitals. Even a small x-ray report would be reviewed by specialist doctors sitting in Super Specialty Hospital. Community health centres, taluk and district hospitals would be upgraded. District Hospitals with 200-bed capacity would be upgraded to 500-700 beds. Quality healthcare will be made available at all districts.

Ambulance service

The Minister said there was 1 ambulance per 1 lakh population earlier and now plans are afoot to have one ambulance for every 30,000 persons. The ambulance would be stationed in every PHC to shift critically ill patients to District Hospitals.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No.: RESBC-EL-Gr.-259-297 Date: 17.12.2020
The undersigned on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following works:

Name of Work	Estimated Cost
Design, Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of (Supervisory Remote Control and Data Acquisition) SCADA system along with comprehensive maintenance contract of SCADA system for 04 years after warrantee period as per RDSO Specification No TI/SPC/RCC/SCADA/0130 (Rev-2) with A&C slip No.1, 2 & 3 with amendments from Samplce Road to Karajgi section (Gr.-259) & Mysuru to Chamarajanagar section (Gr.-297) over Mysuru Division of South Western Railway.	Rs. 5,60,88,312.13/-

Last date of submission of bids: Up to 15:00 hrs of 18.01.2021
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NEWS BRIEFS

Online Shivanubhava Dasoha lecture

The 272nd Shivanubhava Dasoha lecture, being held under the aegis of Sri Shivarathreeshwara Dharmika Datti on the last Saturday of each month, will be held online on Dec. 26 at 5 pm. The lecture will be delivered by Kannada Professor and Director University of Mysore's Prasaranga Prof. Nilagiri Talawar on the topic 'Nijaguna Shivayogigala – Sri Guru Vachanopadesha.' Those interested may log on to Youtube http://Youtube.com/c/JSSMahavidyapeethaonline; https://www.facebook.com JSSMVP or http://jssonline.org

AGM of MGP

Mysore Grahakara Parishat (MGP), Yadavagiri, will be conducting its 31st Annual General Body Meeting on Dec.26 at 4 pm at Dasaprakash Paradise Hall with all COVID-19 guidelines in place. Parishat President Dr. Shivamurthy will preside. For details, call Ph: 0821-2515150 or Mob: 98804-93867, according to a press release.

Elected to FKCCI

Industrialist Rtn. Srishaila Ramannavar has been elected as one of the Directors of Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FKCCI). Elected for the sixth time, he has also been serving as Hon. Treasurer of Vidyavardhaka Sangha, Mysuru.

Appointed

Karnataka State Govt. Fair Price Shop Dealers Association, Bengaluru, has appointed N. Ravi as Interim President of Mysuru City Fair Price Shop Dealers Association with immediate effect and has asked him to respond to problems faced by fair price shop owners, according to a press release.

KRS Water Level

(Maximum : 124.80 feet)

Today	119.39
Yesterday	119.37 ft
Inflow	2,612 cusecs
Outflow	2,150 cusecs

Kabini Level

(Maximum : 2,284.00 feet)

Yesterday	2,271.07 ft
Inflow	480 cusecs
Outflow	125 cusecs

Harangi Level

(Maximum : 2,859.00 feet)

Today	2,818.87 ft
Inflow	204 cusecs
Outflow	30 cusecs

City-bound carved ivory seized; three nabbed

Probe on to identify workmen who engraved exquisite artefacts

Mysuru, Dec. 25 (MTY&BCT)- In spite of its sacred status, the Asian elephant is not safe. And they are being killed every other day for the precious ivory. And despite ban, illegal ivory trade thrives.

Though the trade is carried out in a clandestine manner, hoodwinking the authorities, there are umpteen cases of ivory seizures reported in the region. But it is a rare seizure when intricately carved ivory is confiscated.

The Forest Mobile Squad has made a prized catch by arresting three persons along with carved elephant tusks. The accused were trying to sell it in a car near Naidunagar yesterday. The accused have been identified as Manohar (40), a resident of Naidunagar, Sumanth (26) and Shivadas (55) from Somwarpet in Kodagu District.

The Mobile Squad team has seized one Alto car (KA-02-MB-0577) and a bike (KA-12-H-8233). The accused were apprehended while they were selling the ivory. The squad had got a tip-off that three persons were waiting for potential customers at Naidunagar. Based on the information, the spot was raided. Though the accused managed to dodge the sleuths for some time, they were caught red-handed.

The carved ivory includes an idol of Lord Krishna with his flute. The idol is placed on a wooden pedestal. The remaining two are one-and-a-half foot dexterously carved tusks. The workmanship is so perfect that the tusks stand out as a milky white 3-D sculpture.

The art of carving and engraving in ivory, an exceptionably pliant medium in the hands of skilled artisans, flourished in India only to be interrupted by a 1990 worldwide ban on buying and selling ivory under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). 180 countries, including India have signed the pact.

Initial interrogation of the accused revealed that the tusks were not from the elephant that had been poached recently. Investigations are on to identify the workmen who carved the

artefacts as cases can be booked against them too.

The elephant is protected under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. It lists it as a most endangered animal. Killing it or possessing any ivory item calls for a minimum three years in jail punishment and Rs. 50,000 fine. Possession, sale, workmanship, purchasing and transporting ivory all attract punishment.

Deputy Conservator of Forests (Mobile Squad) A.T. Poovaiah directed the operation. Range Forest Officer (RFO) S. Vivek, Deputy RFOs Sundar, Vinod, Pramod, Lakshmeesh, Nagaraj, Sneha, Meghana and forest guards Chennabasava, Mahanthesh, Sharanappa, Govindu, Ravikumar Ravinandan, Virupaksha; drivers Puttaswamy and Madhu were part of the raid.

Four arrested for attempting to sell Sand Boa snake

Mysuru, Dec. 25 (MTY&KS) - The Forest Mobile Squad staff have arrested four persons on charges of trying to sell a Sand Boa snake by making the buyers believe that it was a two-headed snake and have rescued the snake besides seizing a Maruti van and three two-wheelers from them.

The arrested are 32-year-old H. Kumar of Dadadapura village, Kirugaval hobli in Malavalli taluk, 38-year-old B. Chandra of Nanjangud, 44-year-old Ravish of South Bengaluru and 32-year-old Shivaprakash of Kothalawadi in Chamarajanagar district.

The Forest personnel have seized a Maruti van (KA-02-MH-1146), Hero Honda Hunk (KA-03-HA-9389), Honda Activa (KA-09-Z-5708) and a TVS Star City bike (KA-09-HV-5883) from them besides rescuing the snake which was kept in a bag.

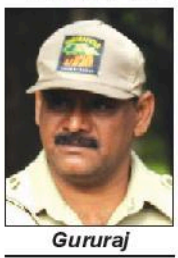
Acting on a tip off that a few persons were coming to sell a Sand Boa snake, the Forest Mobile Squad personnel, who waited for the miscreants, conducted an operation upon their arrival at Srirampura Ring-Road Junction on Mysuru-H.D. Kote Road and rescued the snake besides arresting the accused.

Forest Mobile Squad Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF) A.T. Poovaiah supervised Range Forest Officer (RFO) S. Vivek, DRFO Nagaraj and staff Sharanappa, Virupaksha, Mahantesh, Ravikumar, Kotresh Poojar, Ravinandan and Puttaswamy in the nabbing, seizing and rescue operation.

Tusker gores Forest Watcher to death at Nagarahole

Victim was a cook and did not have expertise to escape wild elephant attack, say colleagues

Mysuru, Dec. 25 (Mahesh& BCT)- A forest watcher was trampled to death by a wild elephant yesterday at Nagarahole Tiger Reserve while he was on patrolling duty along with other team members.


Gururaj

One more watcher has been injured in the incident that occurred at Doddalli Beat near Gaddе Haadi. An elephant suddenly appeared and trampled him to death. Other watchers drove away the tusker and recovered the body of the forest watcher.

The deceased has been identified as 52-year-old Gururaj. At around 2 pm yesterday, he along with other watchers Chandru and Ashok were on regular beat at Doddalli. A tusker suddenly appeared from behind the thick bushes and attacked Gururaj. The tusker was in 'musth' and it flung Gururaj onto the ground and gored him with its tusk.

So violent was the attack that Gururaj's stomach was ruptured and the intestines came out. Ashok, in his attempt to save his colleague, too sustained injuries. The other two guards managed to shout loudly and scare away the elephant. The tusker vanished into the thickets.

Later, with the help of tribals living at Gadde Haadi, Chandru shifted Gururaj and Ashok to the Nagarahole Range Forest Office that was just 200 metres away from the place where the incident took place. After first aid to Gururaj and Ashok at Kutta Government Hospital, they were being shifted to Mysuru.

Gururaj, however, breathed his last on the way to the hospital. He was a resident of Kalkunike near Hunsur. He joined the Department on contract basis in 2001 and his service was regularised in 2004. Gururaj was a good chef and used to cook food for guests and VIPs who come to the Forest Guest House at Nagarahole Headquarters. He leaves behind his wife and two children.

Watcher group had no guard accompanying

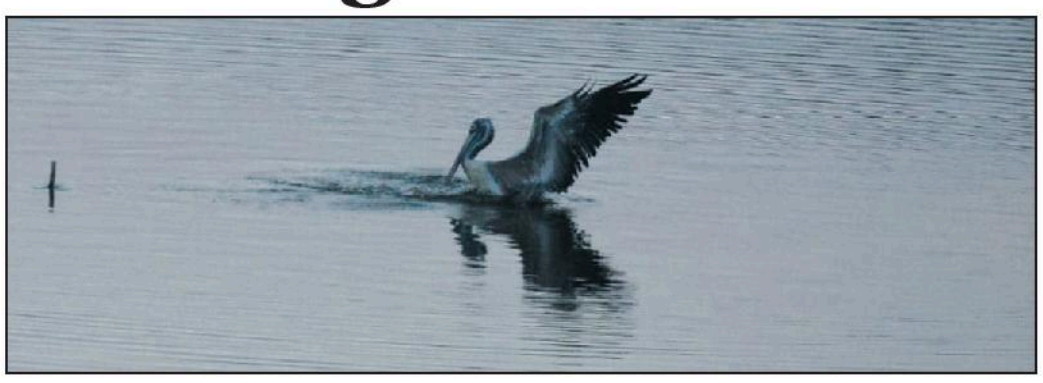
As per Forest Department rules, if a group of watchers go on patrolling, they must be accompanied by a guard who has a rifle with him. Watchers are not entitled to possess a firearm. Even the rifles that are given to guards are old and out-dated and it is impossible to load the rifle with a bullet and fire when a wild animal attacks.

Department sources admit that the group of watchers who went on patrolling yesterday along with Gururaj did not have a guard accompanying. Moreover, Gururaj was a cook and he was put on regular forest beat recently and he did not have the skill to escape a wild elephant attack, his colleagues say.

A watcher has to typically walk 10 to 15 kilometres per day inside the jungle and it was difficult for Gururaj to do such a feat and he had pleaded with officials to put him back as a cook, his friends and colleagues at the forest guest house say.

Forest Department officials, however, clarified that all those who have been appointed as watchers must have experience inside the forest too and a watcher cannot forever perform the duties of a cook.

Pelican tangled in fishing net rescued



Mysuru, Dec. 25 (MTY& BCT)-An insensitively abandoned fishing net at Mandakalli Lake almost killed a Spot-Billed Pelican, a migratory bird, yesterday.

Fortunately it was rescued and it flew away from the Lake and perched on a tree soon after being saved.

Several Pelicans have come to the Lake and are roosting on the shady trees in the surroundings. One of the birds was caught in the mindlessly abandoned fishing nets by local population who use the water body to catch fish for sale. This Lake, located on the Mysuru-Nanjangud Highway, is the only water body in the vicinity that is a natural habitat.

The nets were placed right in the middle of the Lake and people did not notice the bird that was entangled in it. The bird struggled to wriggle away from the nets for more than two hours and it had resigned to its fate, exhausted.

Some passers-by, however, noticed the bird desperately flapping its wings unable to get out and informed Snake Shivakumar who rushed to the spot and plunged into waters. Despite a lot of efforts, Shivakumar was not able to free the bird. He sought the help from Fire and Emergency Services Department.

The Department readily obliged and a team comprising lead Fire Officer Thammanna, K.T. Swamy, K.M. Anand, Manohar and Kumar took a boat along with Snake Shivakumar. They removed the nets by cutting open the lines and the bird was rescued. Realising that it has been freed, the bird flew and perched on a tree.

People visiting lake bodies and around should be sensitive towards the Lake's ecosystem, appealed the rescuers.

Fishing nets being abandoned pose a grave danger to the lives of waterborne birds, they added.

Woman robbed of chain

Chain-snatchers use KTM bike, throw chilli powder on victim

Mysuru, Dec. 25 (RK&DM)- After a brief lull, chain-snatchers struck again in the city this morning, with a 45-year old woman becoming the latest victim.

Eeramma, 45, wife of Govindappa and a resident of K.G. Koppal, was walking towards a temple on Saraswathipuram first main road at about 8.30 am, when two miscreants who came on a KTM bike in the opposite direction, threw chilli powder on her face and yanked off her 35-gram gold chain. The miscreants fled from the spot in a flash even before other pedestrians could realise what was happening and rush to the help of Eeramma.

Kuvempunagar Police Inspector G.C. Raju and staff rushed to the spot and conducted mahazar.

This is for the first time in the city that miscreants have used a high end KTM motorcycle for chain-snatching and threw chilli powder on the victim for carrying out the crime. The entire act of the miscreants has been recorded in CCTV cameras installed close to the spot of crime and the Police are scrutinising the images captured in the cameras, according to which the bike rider was wearing a fully covered helmet, while the pillion rider was wearing only a face mask.

Saraswathipuram Police, who have registered a case in this regard, have launched a manhunt to nab the miscreants.

Girl goes missing along with cash, jewels

Kavya

Mysuru, Dec. 25 (KS)- A 19-year-old girl has gone missing along with cash, jewels and her educational documents from city.

The missing girl is Kavya, daughter of Somashekar, a garments merchant at T. Narasipur and residing in Alanahalli Police limits in city.

On Dec. 20, after Somashekar couple left for T. Narasipur, Kavya, who sent her brother and sister to fetch snacks, left the home with 130 grams gold ornaments, Rs. 1 lakh cash, her educational documents and her Aadhaar Card.

Somashekar, who has suspected his worker Kantharaju of taking away his daughter, has lodged a complaint with the Police.

Those having any information about the missing girl may contact Alanahalli Police Station on Ph: 0821-2418318 or call Police Control Room on Ph: 0821-2418339, according to a press release.

Man dies at hospital

Mysuru, Dec. 25 (KS)- A 45-year-old man, who was found sick and admitted to K.R. Hospital on Dec. 23 at about 10.30 am, has breathed his last at about 1 am the following day at the hospital.

The deceased has been identified as Laran. He is 5.5 ft. tall, fair complexioned, oval faced, normal built and was wearing a blue coloured half arm T-Shirt and green shorts.

The kith and kin of the deceased, if any, may contact Metagalli Police Station on Ph: 0821-2418315 or call Police Control Room on Ph: 0821-2418339, according to the press release from the Station House Officer, Metagalli Police Station, Mysuru.

UNIVERSITY OF MYSORE
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Email: spa-m@uni-mysore.ac.in Ph: 0821-2414515, 2419373
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Sd/- Director

The man who saved the Town

By Prof. K.C. Belliappa and Dr. Shakira Jabeen

[Pic. courtesy: Internet]

General reading habit has resurfaced during pandemic. There are many literary works written long ago but strike similarity with present conditions. What makes writings from the past contemporary and universal is a question that can throw up multiple answers.

Stories, myths, parables, novels, plays, poems, comics and even criticism address issues and emotions that intrigue, please and disturb human beings. Hence we hear people quoting poets and writers irrespective of their geographical locale.

Though we need a paraphrased version to understand Shakespeare, his lines are quoted often. Some of the quotes — 'To be or not to be' or 'Frailty thy name…' — have become parts of our vocabulary.

Recently, while discussing the state of economy with a friend, she said, "What we need is the stranger of Pumpelsdrop." If not wishful thinking, the story can at least entertain and connect the present with past. But then most stories have to be read with some amount suspension of disbelief.

'The Man who Saved Pumpelsdrop' is a story written by Walter J. Turner after the great depression of 1930s. Pumpelsdrop is an imaginary town and was not on the direct route to anywhere. To reach it, one had to take a detour and it was surrounded by villages where farming was the way of life.

When farmers produced and sold well, they flocked to the town and spent a lot luxury shopping. A casual visitor would wonder how such a small town could have such a luxurious chain of shops. But that was in the past. At one point, Pumpelsdrop lost its business and wore a deserted look. The shops barely managed a hand-to-mouth business. Things would have continued but for this incident.

A well-dressed man visited 'Principal Motor Car' showroom and asked for the proprietor and proffered his visiting card. The proprietor was elated as it bore the name of the noble family whose estate was about 50 miles away.

The stranger wanted two latest models of Rolls Royce vehicles. The price of each was 3,000 Pounds. The dealer needed a month to deliver the cars. The stranger was fine with it as the cars were Christmas present to his wife and daughter. He said he would come with his cheque and chauffeurs on Christmas Eve.

Consumer Economy Ignited

Later, the car showroom proprietor rushed home and in his excitement of having got bookings for two Rolls Royce cars told his wife that she could order herself jewellery for Christmas. The next day she went to the best jeweller's shop and asked to see some necklaces. As the jeweller knew her and her husband, he showed her the best he had.

Among them was a beautiful, expensive piece on which he had given up all hope of selling it. Taken in by its exquisite beauty, she ordered the necklace to be delivered to her house on the Christmas Eve. The overjoyed jeweller, at dinner time, asked his wife to order a new fur coat she was wanting. She obeyed and got many more things that would complement the fur coat. The furrier in turn shared the optimism by ordering the accessories he badly wanted — a suit, shoes, socks and a safety razor, all to be delivered on Christmas Eve.

The contagion of spending was set in motion in Pumpelsdrop. Soon, everybody was buying or selling something. A sudden prosperity dawned. The town saw cheerful faces buying and celebrating their purchases in tea shops and restaurants. People released themselves of years of depression and suppression.

They bought things they had deprived themselves of for years. The town council too took up several pending improvement schemes. Soon, countryside neighbours started arriving, adding to the business. Farmers too took up more cultivation. They had economised so long wearing old clothes and not daring to spend a penny without anxious calculation. There was hope in the air and everyone was warming up to it.

On the morning of Christmas Eve, the car dealer was cheerful. He had done much more business in the last month than he had ever hoped. Those two Rolls Royce had arrived. In the afternoon, his old friend, a hardware dealer, dropped in and in the course of the conversation, they had a drink.

He told the car dealer that he had a huge order for barbed wires from the 'Lunatic Asylum' — an expensive establishment for private patients. The asylum had a 10-ft high fencing. But one of their inmates escaped five weeks ago. He added, "Apparently, he was one from the family of…"

The car dealer remembered the name on the visiting card. He looked at his watch — it was quarter to six on Christmas Eve. The bells of the town were ringing merrily. He remembered the glistening cars in his showroom. He knew that the stranger wouldn't come to take them. But business had been so good that he could afford to keep them for some more time. He narrated the whole sequence of events to his friend. Both the friends drank to the greatest benefactor Pumpelsdrop had ever seen — 'Long live the lunatic.'

Addendum: The story ends with an 'All is well that ends well' note. Any resemblance to the situation in the story to the present conditions, should add to our belief that history repeats. It also portrays the universal characters and situations Turner conjured up.

[Prof. K. C. Belliappa was a faculty in Department of English, Manasagangothri, Mysuru and Dr. Shakira is an alumnus of the Department.]

Xmas & *Vaikunta Ekadashi*

People taking selfie at St. Philomena's Church premises this morning.

(Continued from page 1)

Bishop of Mysuru Diocese Rev. Dr. K.A. William placed the idol of Infant Jesus in the crib. Sermons and prayers were conducted by the Bishop. Usually, the idol of Infant Jesus is placed in the crib at midnight to mark the birth of Christ. But thanks to the Government's frequently changing orders, the idol was placed in the crib at 7 pm.

Early morning prayers

The illuminated Churches, people visiting them and Christmas holidays spread some cheer amidst the pandemic. People came out of their homes wearing masks and carrying handy sanitiser dispensers in a hope that at least their prayers would herald a disease-free New Year.

As most of the devotees could not attend the midnight Mass, many devotees lined up in front of churches as early as 5 am today. Prayers were held till 11 am.

Prayer services were also conducted at Virgin of the Poor Church in Bannimantap, St. Anthony's Church in Gayatripuram, Pushpagiri Church in Belavatta village, Sacred Heart Church in Yadavagiri, Holy Family Church in Hinkal, St. Theresa Church in Mysore South, Mother Theresa Church in Rajivnagar, St. Joseph's Church in Jayalakshmipuram and other churches in city.

Vaikunta Dwara opens

Special puja arrangements were made at Sri Ganapathi Sachchidananda Ashram. The Venkataramanaswamy Temple inside the Ashram premises was decked up for the occasion. In the puja rituals that were held early in the morning Sri Swamiji took part.

A *Vaikunta Dwara (Swargada Baagilu)* or 'Heavenly Gate' to the Lord's inner Sanctum was opened at North of the temple and devotees passed through the Dwara. The Dwara is opened on this auspicious day, which falls during the *Dhanur / Margashira* month in the Hindu calendar (corresponding to late December-early January in English calendar).

While the Venkateshwara Temple inside the Ashram was decorated as "Shesha Vahana", the Venkateshwara idol was decorated as Mahavishnu. However, there was no *prasada* distribution in the Temple and devotees had to return after *darshan.*

Extra rush at Temples

Due to the festival, there was extra rush in Sri Chamundeshwari Temple atop the Chamundi Hill. Devotees also thronged the ISKCON Temple at Jayanagar for *darshan* and Vaikunta Dwara Puja. Devotees wore masks and sanitisers were made available at almost every corner.

Likewise, special pujas were held at Yoganarasimhaswamy Temple in Vijayanagar, Sri Raghavendra Swamy Mutt at Kuvempunagar and Jayalakshmipuram, Lakshmi Narasimhaswamy Temple on Kalidasa Road and Srinivasa Temple on 5th Cross in Jayanagar.

Devotees at** Vaikunta Dwara **in ISKCON temple premises in city.

MLA Nagendra promises site

for Newspaper Distributors Association

Mysuru, Dec.25 (MTY&DM)- MLA L.Nagendra has assured of helping Mysuru Jilla Adhikrutha Patrika Pratinidhigala Sangha (Mysuru District Newspaper Distributors Association) to get a CA (Civic Amenities) site if it applies with MUDA.

He was speaking after releasing the 2021 calendar and fifth anniversary programme of the Sangha at Patrakarthara Bhavan here this morning.

Pointing out that newspaper agents and distributors have the responsibility of delivering newspapers to readers at the specified time irrespective of weather conditions, Nagendra said that many distributors have to wake up as early as 4 am to assort newspapers and distribute them to readers.

Highlighting their role in keeping the readers abreast of the latest news, he promised to build shelters for them out of his MLA fund at designated points across the city. He said that he would also extend financial help for construction of building if the Sangha is allotted a CA site.

Former MLA Vasu, who is also the Hon.President of the Sangha, lauded the Sangha for striving for the cause of newspaper agents and distributors. Condoling the death of the Sangha's Hon. President Janardhan and the Sangha President B.N. Nayak a few months ago, he said that COVID-19, as a single epidemic, has devastated the entire world like no other disease in the past. Complimenting the Sangha's programmes taking into consideration the interests of all the Sangha members and their children, he said that newspaper agents and distributors too must be brought under the unorganised sector. Underlining the benefits of being brought under unorganised sector, Vasu said that the inclusion will greatly help them to avail all Government benefits covered under Labour welfare schemes.

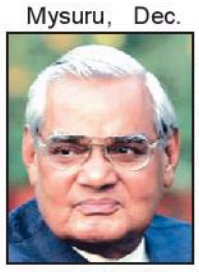
Vasu called upon journalists to highlight the plight of newspaper agents who work on all days, braving the sun, rain and inclement weather and to bring it to the notice of the Government.

Mysuru District Journalists Association (MDJA) President S. T. Ravikumar, who was the guest of honour, said that this programme highlights the humanistic values of the Sangha.

Complimenting the Sangha for coming to the aid of its members who faced a lot of hardship during the COVID-19 crisis, he said that MDJA will stand behind it all the times and render whatever help and co-operation it can.

On the occasion, several members, who faced a lot of hardship during COVID-19 were extended financial help out of the interest generated from the fixed deposits made by the present and past Legislators (Rs. 50,000 by Vasu and Rs.1 lakh by L. Nagendra). Sangha President P. Suresh, Vice-Presidents K.N. Venkatesh Babu and S. Shantesh, General Secretary A. Ravi, Joint Secretaries B. Venugopal and J. Chandrashekar, Treasurer M.N.Prakash and others were present.

Vajpayee's 96th birth anniversary



A.B. Vajpayee

Mysuru, Dec. 25 (RKB & SSV)- Felicitation to pourakarmikas, progressive farmers, distribution of sweaters to roadside vendors and sanctioning of loan to small vendors marked the 96th birth anniversary celebrations of former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee by City BJP Unit here this morning.

Various units of BJP celebrated Vajpayee's birth anniversary in different way. The farmer's wing celebrated by honouring five progressive farmers; Vajyapee Fans Association distributed tailoring machine to five women; traders wing distributed 100 sweaters to road-side vendors in front of Chikka Gadiyara; Beneficiaries Cell disbursed micro finance sanction letters to petty vendors; Minority Cell members cleaned a road near Meena Bazaar; Chamaraja Unit members cleaned the Gokulam Burial Ground in which MLA L.Nagendra participated; Yuva Morcha members cleaned Gau Shala in Pinjrapole; OBC unit members cleaned park; SC/ST Morcha unit felicitated five pourakarmikas; Krishnaraja BJP unit members felicitated five persons. MLA S.A. Ramdas was present

At the main function, Mysuru-Kodagu MP Pratap Simha, MLC A.H. Vishwanath, City BJP Unit President V. Srivatsa and City BJP In-charge M.V. Ravishankar paid rich tributes to Vajpayee for his contribution to the nation such as the Golden Quadrilateral project linking North, West, East and South. He was a source of inspiration to many leaders including the incumbent PM Narendra Modi. Today, PM has announced direct transfer of Rs.2,000 to each of 9 crore farmers as part of 'Kisan Sanman' scheme, he said.

Vishwanath also spoke on the qualities of Vajpayee and termed him as an 'Ajatashathru' (a man who has no enemies).

25th Death Anniversary

O Lord we cannot judge, But all is Good, that is done by you, We grieve losing our dear one, But we pray that your will be done.

S.Rathnam (Retd., Railway)
Exp:25.12.1995

It has been 25 long years since You left us all and you are missed each and everyday. You were someone special for each and everyone in the family.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client intends to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner, Sri. Syed Ilyas Ahmed, S/o Sri. Syed Abdul Kudus, residing at no. 566, 7th Cross, 2nd Stage, Rajiv Nagar, Mysuru-570 019, [Aadhaar No.: 7720 1798 2869]. If any person/s who claims any right, interest or title of any nature or any lien, charge or enforceable right in relation to the Schedule Property or has any objections of any nature to the transaction should lodge or report such claim and / or objections in writing with supporting documents to the undersigned within **Seven [7] days** from the date of publication of this notice. In the event of no such claims / objections have received it will be presumed that no valid claims or objections subsists and my client would proceed to purchase the Schedule Property as if no such claim or objections exists or that they have been waived or abandoned.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the vacant site property bearing no. 1852, measuring East to West 15.00 Meters and North to South 24.00 Meters in total 360.00 Square Meters, situated at Devanur Extension, 2nd Stage, 2nd Phase, Rajeev Nagar, N.R. Mohalla, Mysuru and property bounded on- **East by : Property bearing site no. 1853, West by : Property bearing site no. 1851, North by : Road and South by : Property bearing site no. 1837 & 1838.**

Sd/- **K.N. Mahadeva Swamy** (B.Sc., LL.B.,)
Advocate & Notary, Room No. 1 & 2, Allama Prabhu Krupa Commercial Complex, First Floor, 5th Cross, Ramanuja Road, Mysuru-570 004.
Mob: **94482 22522**; Off: **0821 - 4287998**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby issued to the general public that Sri. V Venugopala Reddy, S/o. Sri. Somireddy, aged 51 Years, Residing at No. 15/68, Kollipara, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh-522 304, has agreed to sell the **SCHEDULE PROPERTY** to my client.

Any person/s asserting any right, title, interest or claim on the SCHEDULE PROPERTY or any part thereof, is hereby required to communicate the same in writing to the undersigned at; **# 67/7A, 2-3, First Floor, New Sayyaji Rao Road, Fort Mohalla, MYSORE - 570 004**, along with documentary evidence, within **SEVEN (07) days** from the date of this Public Notice, failing which the sale transaction of the **SCHEDULE PROPERTY** will be completed on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with respect of the **SCHEDULE PROPERTY**.

SCHEDULE

All the piece and parcel of the **Residentially converted undeveloped** land bearing Sy.No. 33/2, measuring **One Acre Twenty-Five Guntas, (1.25.00.00) situated at Huyilalu** Village, Ilawala Hobali, Mysuru Taluk, **Mysuru District, alienated** for residential Purpose, vide official memorandum No. 113918 dated 05/02/2020, by the Deputy Commissioner, Mysuru District and **bounded on the; East By:** Sy. No. 33/3, West By: Sy. No. 34 & 35, North By: Sy. No. 33/1, South By: Sy. No. 29

Place: MYSURU, Date: 25/12/2020.

Sd/- **Prakash Kalappa.M. N**
ADVOCATE & LEGAL CONSULTANT, # 2 3, First Floor, PRI Complex, 67/7A, New Sayyajirao Road, Fort Mohalla, Mysore 570 004.
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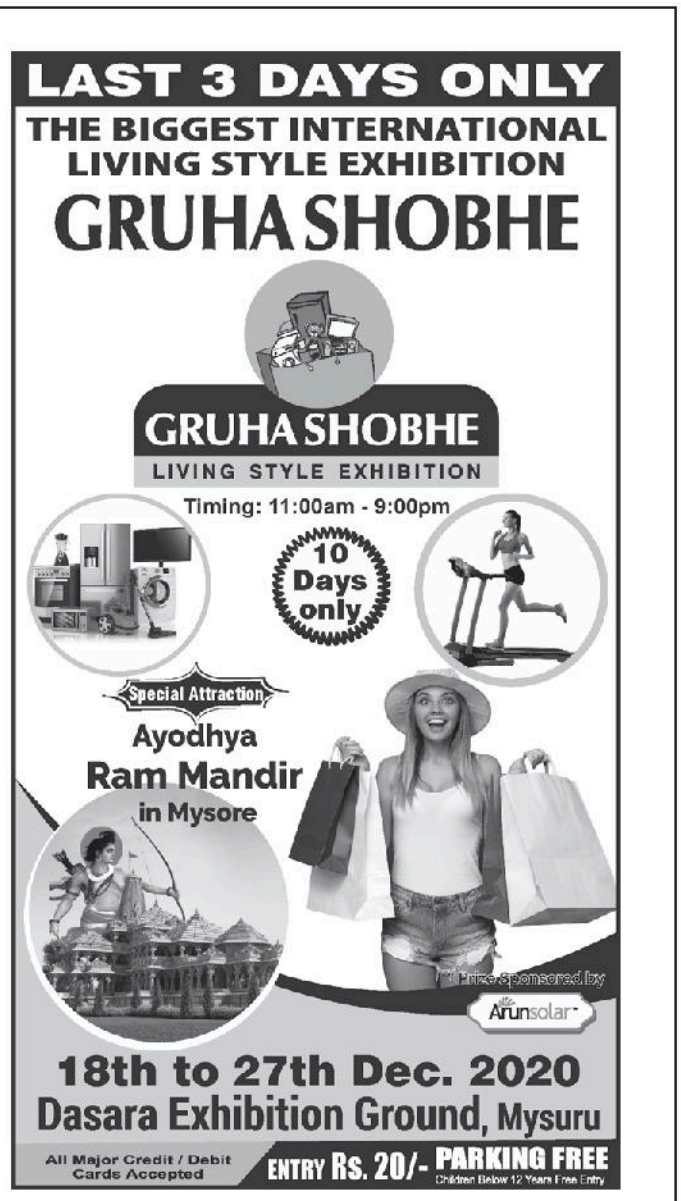


Vasundharotsava: Five-day Classical Dance and Music Extravaganza from Dec. 28

Jeevitha *Charvi* *Gowri* *Nandana* *Aditi* *Ksithi* *Aditi & Spoorti* *Vasundhara* *Rekha*

Anusha *Lakshmirekha* *Radha Krishna* *Dr. Pavitre* *Mitra Naveen* *Pooja* *Amrutha* *Manasa Nayana* *Dr. Vasundhara*

Mysuru, Dec. 25- Vasundhara Performing Arts Centre (VPAC), Mysuru, has organised ***Vasundharotsava-2020,*** the 34th edition of national festival of classical dance and music from Dec. 28 to Jan. 1 at Sri Nadabrahma Sangeetha Sabha, JLB Road, between 5.30 pm and 8.30 pm each day.

Rangayana Director Addanda C. Cariappa will inaugurate the programme on Dec. 28 at 5.30 pm. Rtn. M.J. Swamy, President, Rotary North, Mysuru will be the chief guest. Art Patron K.V. Murthy, President, VPAC, Mysuru will preside.

The talented tiny-tots will present "Chiguru Sanje" on the day of inauguration. They are: Jeevitha - Disciple of Vidu. Premita Govind; Charvi Kashyap - Disciple of Vidu. Nagalakshmi Nagarajan; Gowri B. Rajendra - Disciple of Dr. Vasundhara Doraswamy; R. Nandana and K.S. Aditi - Disciple of Vidu. Varija Nalige; Ksithi Thakkar - Disciple of Vidu. Sujay Shanbhag, Hubballi.

The young and upcoming dancers from different parts of India who will take part in this festival are:

Kathak: Aditi Ashok and Spoorthi Ashok, Bengaluru - Disciple of Guru Nirupama Rajendra.

Bharatanatya: Vasundhara Jamadagni - Disciple of Vid. Sandesh Bhargav; Anusha Raj, Pooja Sagar and Amrutha Bhat.

The established dancers, gurus and choreographers who will also participate in Vasundharotsava- 2020 are:

Vidu. Dr. Lakshmi Rekha, Bengaluru - Disciple of Guru Dr. Vasundhara Doraswamy; Vidu. Vidyashree Radhakrishna, Mangaluru - Disciple of late Guru Muralidhar Rao and Vid. Ramaa Vaidyanathan; Dr. K.S. Pavitra, Shivamogga (A Tribute to Rashtra Kavi Kuvempu) - Disciple of Guru Dr. Vasundhara Doraswamy; Vidu. Mitra Naveen, Mysuru - Disciple of late Guru Muralidhar Rao and Guru Dr. Kripa Phadke.

Kuchupudi: Vidu. Rekha Satish - Disciple of Guru Manju Bhargavi.

On Jan.1 from 5.30 pm to 6 pm, Vid. Manasa Nayana, an established Karnatak vocalist will present a music concert followed by Dr. Vasundhara Doraswamy's solo "SHABARI" based on "Epic Ramayan." Concept and script is by Vidushi Dr. Jyothi Shankar while Music is scored by Vidwan Srivatsa of Bengaluru; Choreography by Dr. Vasundhara Doraswamy.

'Showcasing fresh young musicians'

The third online concert under the special series, "Yuva Sangeetha Sambhrama - 2020" of Sri Thyagaraja Sangeetha Sabha Charitable Trust, Mysuru launched in October, was rendered by **Vid. Anirudh R. Bhat** and team and was premiered on Sabha's YouTube channel on Nov.7.

Vid. Anirudh R. Bhat

Vidu. Ananya Ramanujan

Having had his initial training in music by Vid. Ramabai of Mandya, Anirudh is now shaping his talent under the tutelage of senior musician Vid. Bellary M. Raghavendra.

Swathi Tirunal's Attatala varna, 'Chalamela' in Raga Shankarabharana marked the opening of the concert.

The next composition was of Mysuru Vasudevacharya, 'Pranamamyaham' in Raga Gowla and Aditala, with neat kalpanaswaras, followed by Shyama Shastry's 'Biranavaralichi' (Raga Kalyani, Trishranade Aditala), with ragalapana. Both these krithis came up beautifully. The concluding presentation of the concert was the popular slow paced composition of Thyagaraja, 'Kaddanuvariki', in Raga Thodi and Aditala. Anirudh succeeded in enthralling the audience with his ragalapana and swaraprastara embodied with bhava in his rendition.

The young violinist, **M.P. Krithik Koushik** was brilliant in supporting the vocalist. While experienced mridanga artiste **Vid S. Kumaraswamy's** performance contributed to the success of the concert, young talent **Vid. Shamith S. Gowda** drew attention by responding equally well.

The fourth concert of the series premiered on Nov.28 was presented by **Vidu. Ananya Ramanujan** and team.

Ananya hails from a family of musicians and is the daughter of Mysuru's popular percussion artist Vid. G.S. Ramanujan. She is the disciple of her aunts and senior musicians, Vidu. G.S. Kamala - Vidu. G.S. Rajalakshmi, the siblings popularly known as 'Mysuru Sisters'.

Ananya began her concert with Jayachamaraja Wadiyar's composition, 'Saraswathi Bhagavathi', in Raga Hamsavinodini and Mishrajhampe Tala and took up the short composition, 'Vishalakshi' of Muthuswami Deekshitar in Raga Panthuvarali and Mishrachapu Tala as the next item. The Raga Panthuvarali was nicely and briskly portrayed by the vocalist, besides embellishing the krithi with neraval and kalpanaswaras.

The last item of the concert was 'Maa Jaanaki' (Raga Kambhoji, Aditala), a popular composition of Thyagaraja, which was also elaborated with ragalapana, neraval and attractive kalpanaswaras and proved her delightful manodharma.

The concert concluded with a composition of Purandaradasa, 'Neene Gathi Neene Mathi' in Raga Sumanasaranjini and Khandachapu Tala.

Talented artistes **Vidu. C.V. Shruthi** on violin, **Vid. Raghunandan Bhargava** on mridanga and **Vid. T.N. Ajay** on ghata, who enhanced the elegance of the concert by supporting the singer with matured manodharma and brilliant performance, deserve appreciation.

Both the vocalists are gifted with attractive voices and are lucky to be under the tutelage of senior gurus from acclaimed lineage of music. Dedicated practice of the art will take them to greater heights.

—Vijayamala K. Saralaya

Selection of artistes for 'Sarvarigu Samvidhana' play on Dec. 27

Mysuru, Dec. 25 (KS) - Selection of artistes for the play 'Sarvarigu Samvidhana,' to be produced by Rangayana under the Directorate of Kannada and Culture Special Unit to spread information about Constitutional aspirations at various places will be held on Dec. 27 from 10.30 am onwards at Rangayana.

Interested Scheduled Caste (SC) artistes in the age group of 18 to 35 years should be present at Rangayana at 10 am, register their names and face the interview. First preference will be given to Rangayana trained artistes and those who have worked in Mobile Theatre Unit.

Selected artistes will be given monthly honorarium and they should work for the complete term. Also they must be prepared to participate in the play at various districts in the State and mandatorily follow the rules framed by Rangayana. Certificates will be given to the artistes who complete the full term.

For details contact Ph:0821-2512639.

Sports help to explore talent among youths : ZP Chief

Mysuru, Dec.25 (MTY&SSV)- After remaining silent for over eight months, the Chamundi Vihar Stadium came alive with youths presenting a variety of cultural programmes as part of 'Yuvajanothsava' here yesterday.

It was jointly organised by District Administration, Zilla Panchayat, Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports, Nehru Yuva Kendra and National Service Scheme (NSS).

The event was also held to select teams to represent Mysuru District in State-level 'Yuvajanothsava' where another round of selection trials would be held to represent the State in 'National Yuvajan Sapthaha' to be held in New Delhi from Jan. 12 to 18, in connection with the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.

As many as 500 participants in the age group of 15 years to 29 years presented nine forms of arts at Chamundi Vihar Stadium.

Parimala Shyam, President, Mysuru Zilla Panchayat (ZP) who inaugurated the event, opined that Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports would play a vital role in exploring hidden talent among youths.

Achievers in internal arena would be from the sports background. Many have found out a bright future due to their excellence in sports field. Such programmes would be held more in the coming days to hunt talent among youths, she added.

N.V. Phaneesh, Chairman, MYLAC, said the current population of India was 133 crore of which 67 percent was youth and this has made other countries to look at India. The achievement of India would reach new heights in the coming days through performance by youths.

Earlier, parents were deciding the future of children but now it was the latter who would decide what they wanted to do. In the wake of this, the Government Departments must chalk out various programmes to hunt talented youths.

District Superintendent of Police C.B. Ryshyanth said involving in sports would not only help in physical development but also to develop sportive spirit and discipline in life. Parents must identify in which sport their wards are good and put them into it. Interest in sport must not be restricted to just one or two hours daily but it should be part of curriculum too. "Police come even if they are called during mid-night. Will the staff of other Departments come during that time? The cops come because Police is a disciplined force."

L.R. Mahadevaswamy, Chairman, Zoo Authority of Karnataka, Gowramma Somashekar, Vice-President and Manjunathan, Chairman, Standing Committee on Health and Education, Mysuru Zilla Panchayat, Satyaraju, Corporator, G.Omprakash, Assistant Director, Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports, S.Siddaramaiah, District Coordinator and others were present.

While indoor stadium allowed solo performance, a stage was erected outside the stadium to allow youths to display their talent. In solo performance, each participant was given 10 minutes time to perform Bharatanatya, Odissi, Manipuri, Kuchupudi and Kathak. In instrument section, each artiste was given 10 minutes time to play Sitar, Flute, Tabla, Veena, Mridanga, Harmonium and guitar. A duration of 15 minutes was given to present the Karnatak and Hindustani music. Likewise, competitions were held in debate, one man show, folk songs and folk dance."

Private Schools to hold direct talks with Government on addressing issues

Mysuru, Dec.25 (MK&DM)- Even as confusion still prevails regarding the procedures to be followed for school re-opening, the city-based CBSE, ICSE and State Board Private School Managements Association (CISPMAM) has resolved to hold direct talks with the Government in a bid to clear all confusions.

The CISPMAM (covering schools in Mysuru, Mandya, Hassan, Kodagu and Chamarajanagar districts) held a meeting at Manasarowar Pushkarini Vidyashrama in Vijayanagar second stage on Thursday during which a host of issues such as continuance of online classes, collection of school fees, unclarity regarding online and offline classes were discussed.

Addressing the meeting, CISPMAM President Sudhakar S. Shetty said that the abrupt stoppage of online classes would be a setback for learning. He pointed out that in the wake of the outbreak of a new strain of the deadly Coronavirus in United Kingdom, the Government should not show haste for re-opening of schools, taking into account the health and safety of school children. Regarding collection of fees and starting of physical classes, it has been decided to meet Primary and Secondary Education Minister to seek clarifications, he said.

CISPMAM President Sudhakar S. Shetty addressing the meeting at Pushkarini School in Vijayanagar second stage here yesterday.

Continuing, Sudhakar Shetty said that confusions remain on whether the guidelines issued by the Government is applicable for all schools, Government or private.

Noting that there is a lot of difference in the functioning of schools at districts such as Chamarajanagar, Kodagu and Mysuru as compared to the ones at Bengaluru, he regretted that the Government had failed to understand this.

Maintaining that it is not correct on the part of the Government to order continuance of online classes along with offline classes in the morning and afternoon, he said that bringing children to schools two times a day would be a daunting task for the parents, especially in this difficult time of COVID-19 crisis. Underlining the problems of school managements in the payment of salaries for teachers and other staff, he said teachers may seek a hike in salaries as they have to take both online and offline classes and a hike in wages is next to impossible in this critical situation. As such, it has been decided to seek clarifications from the Education Minister itself on the issue, he said.

Asserting that school managements are woefully short of funds due to non-collection of fees from January this year, Shetty said that there seems to be no way for school managements for cash inflows other than collecting fees in full from students. Hence this matter should be seriously taken up with the Minister, he pointed out.

Regretting that an organised malicious campaign has been launched against private schools, Sudhakar Shetty dismissed the media campaign that school managements were fleecing parents.

Condemning the organised campaign against private schools, he said that everyone should understand the reality that private schools are run by fees paid by students and not from any other grants.

He also lashed out at the BEOs of Mysuru district for entertaining RTE activists who are out to destroy private schools.

Naveen Rai of Hunsur's Talent School said that the Government is framing rules that threaten the very existence of private schools. He expressed concern that with the Government introducing its ambitious 'Vidyagama' initiative, the students may think of leaving private schools and join Government schools.

Lingaraju of Vagbharathi School at Hosahundi, said that the schools are finding it extremely difficult to collect fees dues from defaulting students as the BEOs themselves are issuing Transfer Certificates (TC)online. The issuance of online Transfer Certificates has dashed the hopes of fee dues recovery as students need not come to them for seeking TCs.

Child marriage

CISPMAM Mandya District President Meera Shivalingaiah said that many girl school children from rural areas had got married during prolonged shut down of schools. She said that several private schools, worried about the absence of girl children for online classes, visited the villages, when it was learnt that a few child marriages had taken place.

WORD OF THE DAY

Presage

Pronunciation: PRESS-ij.
Meaning: To give an omen or warning of : foreshadow; foretell, predict; to make or utter a prediction.
Origin: The verb presage was predated by a noun presage, meaning "omen." Both forms derive from the Latin prefix prae- combined with the adjective sagus, meaning "prophetic." Foretell, predict, forecast, prophesy, and presage all mean "to tell beforehand." Foretell applies to telling of a future event by any procedure or any source of information ("seers foretold the calamity"). Predict commonly implies inference from facts or accepted laws of nature ("astronomers predicted an eclipse"). Forecast implies anticipating eventualities and is usually concerned with probabilities ("the meteorologist forecasts snow"). Prophesy connotes inspired or mystic knowledge of the future ("the soothsayer prophesied a new messiah"). Presage may apply to suggesting a coming event or indicating its likelihood.
Example: The sudden gloom and ominous dark clouds clearly presaged a nasty storm.

THE ODD WORD

Palaeophile

Antiquarian.

PHRASE OF THE DAY

Pins and Needles

Meaning: Being anxious or nervous; agitated, or in suspense; in a worried or excited state; waiting nervously for something.
Origin: The origin of the phrase 'on pins and needles' comes from the early 19th century. The expression began as a literal description of the sharp, uncomfortable feeling one gets when recovering from numbness. Someone who is figuratively walking on 'pins and needles' is being careful not to say or do anything that is offensive because they do not want to upset someone.
Example: Todd has been on pins and needles all day, waiting for his wife to have the baby.

QUOTE BOX

The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.

—Eleanor Roosevelt

RIDDLE THIS

Solve the rebus:

HEEL HEAL

Answer: High Heels.

SUDOKU

	7		1			5		
								8
4		1		6		7		
				8				6
		3	5		9	1		
8				4				
		9		2		8		3
7								
		2			6		7	

Answer to previous puzzle

7	4	9	8	5	1	3	2	6
2	1	5	4	6	3	9	8	7
8	6	3	2	9	7	1	4	5
5	3	8	6	2	4	7	1	9
9	7	4	5	1	8	2	6	3
6	2	1	3	7	9	4	5	8
1	9	2	7	8	5	6	3	4
4	8	6	9	3	2	5	7	1
3	5	7	1	4	6	8	9	2

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Concept is Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

CROSS WORD

ACROSS:

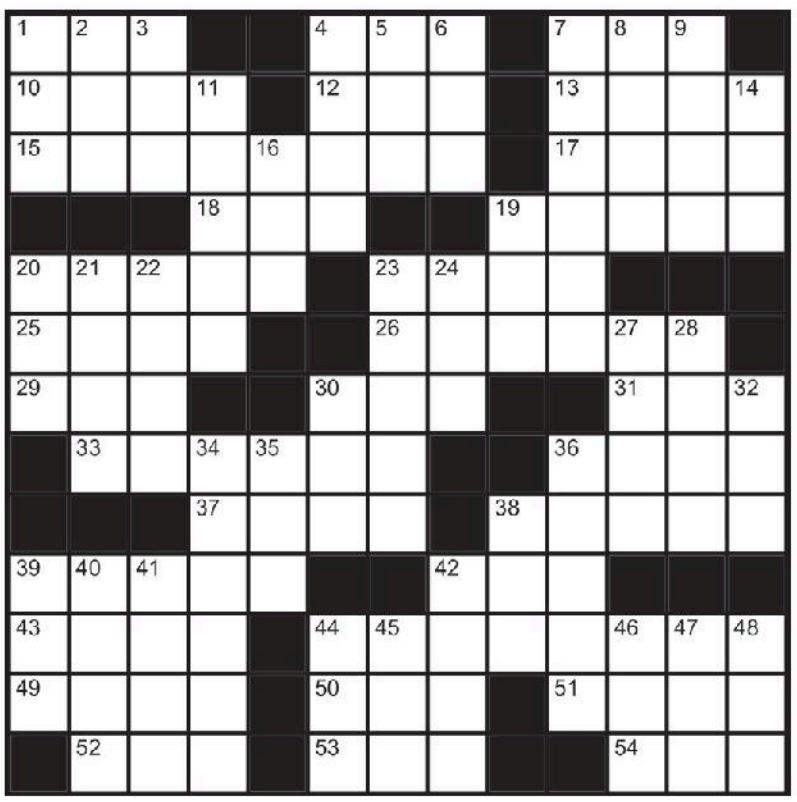
1 Cry of delight
4 Mineral spring
7 Iffy sched. letters
10 Store
12 Lyricist Gershwin
13 Tall, stately trees
15 Embellish; proclaim
17 Spoils for a pirate, perhaps
18 Airline-Selected Equip.
19 Clear
20 Follows orders
23 The D in FDA
25 With open ___ : in a friendly manner?
26 Dishonest or unprincipled persons
29 Kimberley's pet name?
30 Damp or moist
31 Body of water
33 Snoozed
36 ___ out : decides to leave or withdraws ?
37 Keen
38 Firm in allegiance
39 Gather on threads
42 Turkish cap
43 Indian goddess
44 High distinction
49 A small question expressing doubt, wonder or disbelief? (2,2)
50 Sick
51 Breaking waves
52 Defray cost or expense
53 ___ and rice : our staple diet?
54 An expression of impatience

YESTERDAY'S ANSWER

	U	N	I		M	A	C		N	T	H	
K	R	I	S		A	V	A		E	R	A	T
A	U	T	H	O	R	E	D		W	E	R	E
L	S	S		F	A	R		A	S	K	E	D
			B	T	U		C	U	P			
	A	S	I		D	H	A	R	A	V	I	
	P	A	L		I	O	N		P	A	N	
	P	L	A	N	N	E	D		E	N	T	
			T	U	G		I	R	R			
H	A	V	E	N		A	D	O		M	S	S
A	P	E	R		D	E	A	D	L	O	C	K
S	I	T	A		L	O	T		I	S	A	Y
	A	S	L		O	N	E		A	T	N	

Down

1 Sugar suffix
2 Unit of resistance of electricity
3 Flat metal shelf at the side of fireplace
4 Dimension or extent
5 On the affirmative side
6 Famous Hindi movie of days gone by - "An a" anagram?
7 Language of Andhra Pradesh
8 Political alliance
9 Mine, in Aix
11 Stage productions
14 PCO facility
16 Donkey
19 Move heavily
20 Sturdy tree
21 Google co-founder Segey ___
22 Jane Austen heroine
23 1995 Stallone title role, Judge ___
24 Decay
27 Sight
28 Coarse stiff hair
30 3rd century Chinese dynasty
32 Above sea level
34 Equality
35 Nationwide multiplex chain
36 Seeps or drains out
38 Sir Hutton of cricket
39 Slalom
40 Fastener or clasp
41 Romulus kin
42 Supply abundantly
44 Ramzan for one, Bakri for another
45 Elected rep.
46 Crazy person
47 French vineyard -"cur" anagram?
48 Kind of newt



CRYPTOQUIP

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

JBB DCYDRP JCI IJPS DK YULICPDJUL KUQI DRIS JCI

LZPQKWICIL; DRI TKZUD ZP DK LZPQKWIC DRIX.

TODAY'S CLUE: D EQUALS T

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I love acting. It is so much more real than life.

Re-elected as Bangalore Turf Club Chairman

Madikeri, Dec. 25- D. Vinod Shivappa, a coffee planter from Kodagu, has been re-elected as Chairman of the prestigious Bangalore Turf Club (BTC). He was elected unopposed during the Annual General Body Meeting of the Club held at Bengaluru recently.

Also, K. Uday Eswaran, Satish N. Gowda and Naval R. Nariel-wala were elected as Stewards, while Dr. L. Srinivasa Reddy and D.K. Ashwin as members and Additional Chief Secretary of Finance Department, Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru City Police Commissioner and Prof. S.M. Jayadevappa as Government representatives.

D. Vinod Shivappa

EVENTS TODAY (DEC. 25)

- **Gruha Shobhe:** International Living Style Exhibition, special attraction - Ayodhya Ram Mandir, Dasara Exhibition Ground, **upto 9 pm.**
- **Vivekananda Rock Memorial and Vivekananda Kendra Kanyakumari - Mysore Branch:** *Viveka Sinchana* - A cultural competitions for class 1 to college level in different categories as part of Gita Jayanti and Swami Vivekananda Jayanti celebrations, Bhagavad Gita recitation - 3rd Chapter, Kendra premises, 'Meru,' 1st Main, Pampapati Road, Jayanagar, **4 pm.**
- **Ganabharathi:** Virtual Veena concert by Vidwan Balu Masthi accompanied by Vidwan Sunil Subrahmanya on mridanga, live on Ganabharathi Facebook page and Youtube, **6 pm.**
- **Janahita Sangha:** 2021 calendar release and lecture to mark Crime Prevention Month, Saraswathipuram Police Inspector C. Thimmaraju chief guest, Sangha Executive Member M. Kannan presides, Sangha premises, **6.30 pm.**

NOW SHOWING - MOVIES

Padma Theatre Ph: 2521923

Shakeela (K)	2 Shows - 10.30 am, 1.30 pm
Vanguard (E)	2 Shows - 4.30 pm, 7.30 pm

Balaji Theatre Ph: 2497199

Shakeela (H)	3 Shows

DRC CINEMAS Ph: 4240422, 4241800

Wonder Women - 1984 (E)	(S-1)	1.10 pm, 4.15 pm
	(S-4)	10.45 am, 6.50 pm
Solo Brathuke So Better (Te)	(S-1)	7.30 pm; (S-2) 11.10 am
	(S-3)	4.00 pm; (S-4) 1.45 pm
Bow Bow (K)	(S-2)	1.55 pm
Shakeela (H)	(S-2)	4.30 pm, 7.10 pm
Vanguard (E)	(S-3)	11.15 am, 6.30 pm
Avanalli Ivalilli (K)	(S-3)	1.30 pm
Murder (Te)	(S-3)	8.40 pm
Act 1978 (K)	(S-4)	4.15 pm

INOX LIVE THE MOVIE Ph: 2533444 / 2533456

Wonder Women - 1984 (E)	(S-4)	10.00 am
	(S-1)	10.45 am, 2.15 pm
		5.45 pm
	(S-2)	11.30 am, 3.00 pm
		6.30 pm
Solo Brathuke So Better (Te)	(S-3)	10.15 am, 1.10 pm
		7.00 pm
Vanguard (E)	(S-4)	1.30 pm
	(S-3)	4.15 pm
Avanalli Ivalilli (K)	(S-4)	4.30 pm
Shakeela (H)	(S-4)	7.30 pm

NOTE: Movie timings published here are subject to sudden change by the theatre managements. The films are also liable to be changed in multiplexes if there are no minimum audience of 15 to the film announced here. **The other multiplexes and single screen theatres are yet to open.**

National Energy Conservation Award

Mysuru's Central Railway Workshop bags 4th place

Mysuru, Dec. 25- National Energy Conservation Week was celebrated from Dec.14 to 21 throughout the country. As part of the celebrations, National Energy Conservation Awards are given every year to recognise the efforts of various industrial units, establishments and organisations that have shown exemplary performance in the conservation of energy and effective utilisation of available energy.

Central Workshop, Mysuru, is one of the active participants to achieve the goal of National Energy Conservation - Bureau of Energy Efficiency and bagged the 4th place under the category of Industry, Railway Workshops. The following electrical energy conservation energy measures have been implemented at the Central Workshop in Mysuru:

1. Provision of 200 litres per day and 300 litres per day solar water heater in the canteen and 200 litres per day solar water heater in the Paint Shop. **2.** Natural pipe lighting in Cartridge Taper roller bearings Section. **3.** Energy Saver For Welding Plant.

4. Provision of Air Turbo Ventilators. **5.** 400 Kilovolt-Ampere Reactive Automatic Power Factor Control panel in substation.

6. Light transparent roofing sheets (20%) provided in sheds to use natural light. **7.** 30/5 Ton VVVF EOT crane in Carriage lifting shop. **8.** 15/3 Ton VVVF EOT crane in Bogie Repair shop. **9.** 10/3 Ton VVVF EOT crane in Bogie Repair shop. **10.** Conversion of conventional fittings to LED fittings in office buildings and shop floors.

11. Replacement of non star rated ACs with the star rated ACs. **12.** Replacement of conventional welding plant with the insulated-gate bipolar transistor-based welding plants. **13.** Provision of motion sensor for air circulator along with auto cutoff. **14.** Replacement of Conventional Fans with brushless DC electric motor Fans.

Some of the various projects and measures taken to achieve thermal energy conservation in Central Workshop to reduce the carbon emission and save the environment are: **1.** Replacing of Forging Machine (used for degreasing of Protective tube) with Bosch tank. **2.** Savings in HSD oil due to Use of Solar Roof Top 500kWP Plant during EB Shutdowns. **3.** Roller Bearing Cleaning Plant. (This plant is used for cleaning of roller bearing and axle box bolt in wheel shop using chemical instead of kerosene). **4.** Manufacturing of Composite Brake Blocks is stopped and directly purchased from Market.

Under the leadership of Sanjay Agarwal, PCEE/SWR and constant monitoring of O. P. Shaw, CWM/MYSS, Central Workshop was selected for National Energy Conservation award by Bureau of Energy Efficiency, Ministry of Power. Ajay Kumar Singh, GM/SWR, urged everyone to contribute towards energy conservation by starting simple practices of switching off lights and fans when not required as energy saved was energy generated, according to a press release from Chief Public Relations Officer, South Western Railway (SWR), Hubballi.

EVENTS TOMORROW (DEC. 26)

- **Sri Panchamukhi Anjaneyaswamy Temple, Irwin Road:** 20th Hanuma Jayanti Mahotsava, special pujas and homas, religious rituals by temple Chief Priest Vid. S. Krishnamurthy and troupe, temple premises, Irwin Road, **8 am onwards.**
- **Mysuru Citizens Cultural Association, Kuvempunagar:** Releasing of 2021 calendar and felicitation programme, former MLA Vasu releases the calendar, litterateur Dr. C.P. Krishnakumar felicitates former Presidents of Mysuru District Kannada Sahitya Parishat — Dr. Malali Vasanth Kumar, Manasa, Prof. N. Girigowda, Maddikere Gopal and M. Chandrashekar, MDJA President S.T. Ravikumar and Mysuru District Kannada Sahitya Parishat President Y.D. Rajanna, chief guests, Karnataka Sanskrit University retd. VC Prof. Padma Shekar presides, Association President K.S. Nagaraju speaks on the occasion, Pathrakartara Bhavan, Thyagaraja Road, **9.30 am.**
- **Gruha Shobhe:** International Living Style Exhibition, special attraction - Ayodhya Ram Mandir, Dasara Exhibition Ground, **10 am to 9 pm.**
- **Sri Jayachamarajendra College of Engineering (SJCE - constituent college under JSS Science and Technology University):** 'Virtual Fifth Global Alumni Meet,' Prof. M.H. Dhananjaya, Advisor, Technical Education Division, JSS Mahavidyapeetha, inaugurates, Executive Members Mahesh Nagarajiaha, President, D. Sudhanva, Vice-President, M.D. Harinath, Secretary and Shivakumar, Treasurer, will be joining the meet through Virtual Mode, register via - **sjcealumni.org - 10 am onwards.**
- **Ekatari Troupe, Mysuru:** Releasing of Kuppe Nagaraj's book *Alemariya Antaranga's* Hindi translated version *Ghumakkad Ka Antarang*, Krishna Prasad, former Editor of *Outlook* Magazine, releases the book, Dr. Thippeswamy, retd. Professor, Hindi Research and Study Centre, University of Mysore, presides, litterateur Devanur Mahadev and others chief guests, Sriranga Auditorium, Rangayana, **10.30 am.**
- **Mysore Bar Association and 'Law Guide' Kannada Monthly:** Releasing of 2021 Diary by Karnataka High Court Judge Justice Krishna S. Dixit, Mysore Bar Association President S. Ananda Kumar presides, District Sessions Court Judge Ramachandra D. Huddar special invitee, Association Secretary B. Shivanna, Vice-President Shivannegowda and *Law Guide* Editor H.N. Venkatesh will be present, Association premises, **10.30 am.**
- **Vivekananda Rock Memorial and Vivekananda Kendra Kanyakumari - Mysore Branch:** *Viveka Sinchana* - A cultural competitions for class 1 to college level in different categories as part of Gita Jayanti and Swami Vivekananda Jayanti celebrations, recital of Patriotic and folk songs, Kendra premises, 'Meru,' 1st Main, Pampapati Road, Jayanagar, **4 pm.**
- **Social Justice Forum (SJF) and Sri Chamundeshwari Geleyara Pragatipara Seva Pratishtana:** Releasing of senior Advocate O. Sham Bhat's book *'Benkiya Chendu Kuili'*, A. Narayanaswamy, Chitradurga MP and former Minister of Social Welfare, presides, Annamalai, retd IPS Officer and BJP State (Tamil Nadu) Vice-President, releases the book, Karnataka Sahitya Academy Chairman Dr. B.V. Vasantha Kumar speaks on the book, Sri Sarada Vilas Centenary Hall, Krishanmurthypuram, **4.30 pm.**
- **Sri Thyagaraja Sangeetha Sabha Charitable Trust**: Online Vocal concert by Vidu. Archana L. Rao accompanied by city's young talent Vid. Prithvi Bhaskar, senior artist Vid. M. S. Jayaram and Vid. Raghunandan Rao on Facebook page: *Sri ThyagarajaSangeetha Sabha Charitable Trust, Mysore;* YouTube Channel: *Sri ThyagarajaSangeetha Sabha Charitable Trust*, **5 pm.**

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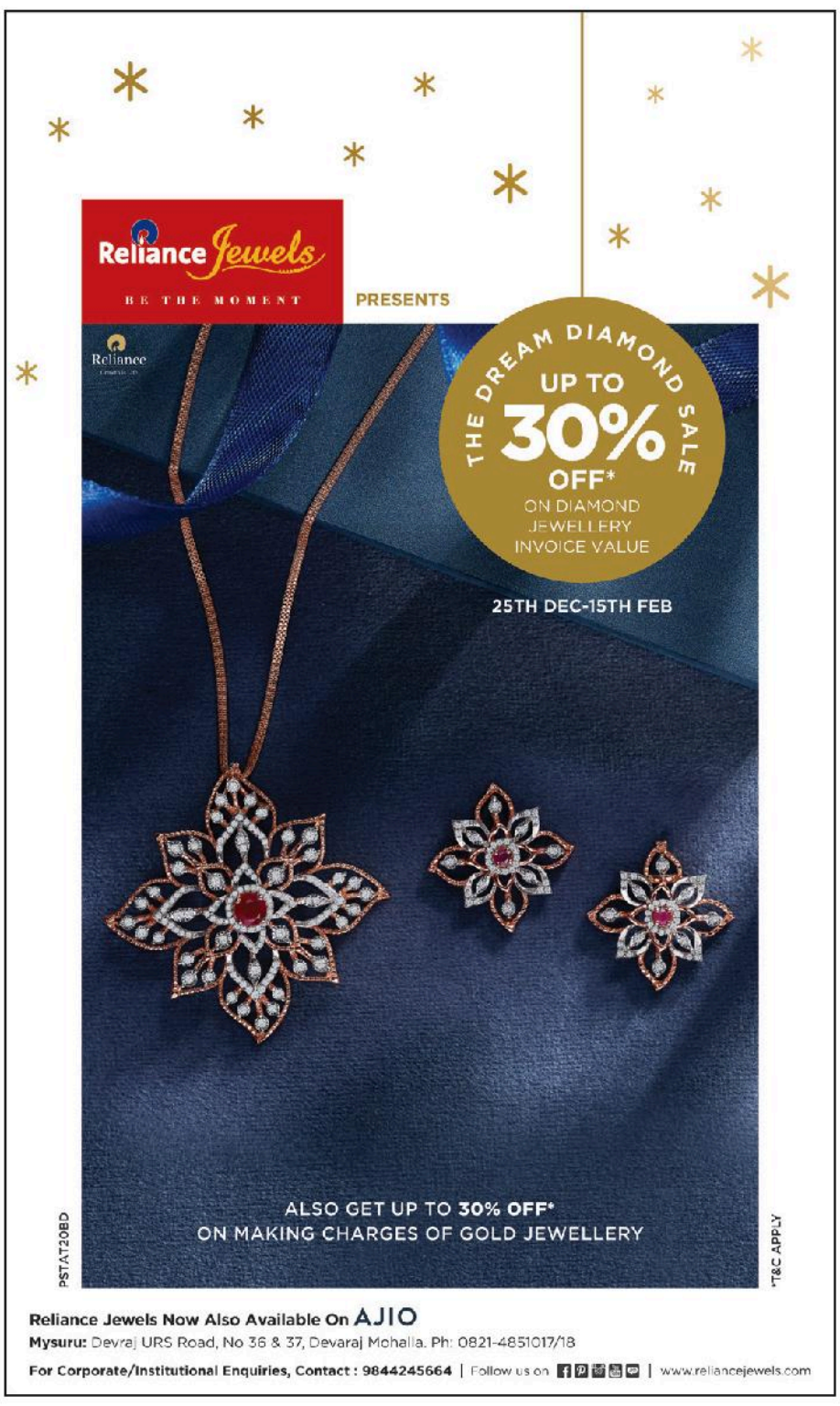

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